

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 11785 261645Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07 TRSE-00 LAB-04
SIL-01 OMB-01 HA-05 IO-13 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
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P R 261251Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3802
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY THEN HAGUE
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 11785

BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: EEC, GR, TU, PORG
SUBJ: ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S JUNE 27 VISIT TO ANKARA

1. DURING MY CALL ON JUNE 23, FOREIGN MINISTER FORLANI
BRIEFED ME ON PRUPOSE OF HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO ANKARA.
HE WILL TRAVEL TO ANKARA ON EVENING OF JUNE 26 DIRECTLY
FROM EC FOREIGN MINISTER'S MEETING IN LUXEMBOURG,
SPENDING THE FOLLOWING DAY IN THE TURKISH CAPITAL.

2. ALTHOUGH FORLANI WILL BE VISITING ANKARA IN OFFICIAL
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GOI CAPACITY, FORLANI SAID THAT HSI MISSION HAD BEEN
COORDINATED WITH THE OTHER EC FOREIGN MINISTER. THEY
WISHED TO ASSURE THE TURKS THAT THE DECISION TO BRING
GREECE INTO THE POLITICAL COOPERATION PROCESS WAS NOT
DIRECED AGAINST TURKEY. FORLANI SAID THAT WITH
THE EXCEPTION OF THE FRENCH WHO HAVE TAKEN A MORE
PRO-GREEK ATTITUDE, THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS WERE

AGREED ON THE NEED TO MAINTAIN AN EVEN HANDED, "BALANCED" STANCE TOWARD GREECE AND TURKEY. FORLANI WOULD THEREFORE EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY WITH THE TURKS OF ORGANIZING SOME FORM OF INFORMAL EX POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THEM. TURKEY'S ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION WITH THE EC PROVIDED THE BASIS FOR SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT.

3. FORLANI STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF ASSURING THE TURKS PARTICULARLY AT THIS TIME THAT THE EC'S DECISION ON GREECE DID NOT REPRESENT A POLITICAL SHIFT BY THE EC AGAINST TURKEY. HE DESCRIBED THE ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SITUATION IN TURKEY AS "EXPLOSIVE" AND OF SERIOUS CONCERN TO THE WESTERN ALLIANCE. HE REFERRED TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S PREOCCUPATION WITH THE TURKISH PROBLEM AT THE NATO SUMMIT, A CONCERN THAT WAS ALSO REFLECTED IN HIS MEETING WITH SECRETARY VANCE IN PARIS RECENTLY. HE SAID IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR THE ITALIANS TO OFFER ANYTHING IN THE WAY OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE THAT WOULD BE OF HELP. HE WONDERED WHETHER THE US MIGHT CONSIDER GRANTING SOME AID WHICH MIGHT HELP TO STABILIZE THE CHAOTIC SITUATION THAT NOW OBTAINS IN TURKEY. I DID NOT COMMENT ON FORLANI'S RHETORICAL SUGGESTION BUT EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACHED TO OUR ALLIANCE RELATIONSHIP WITH TURKEY.

4. FORLANI SAID HE HAD AN APPOINTMENT WITH ECEVIT ON
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THE AFTERNOON OF JUNE 27. THE MEETING COULD BE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST SINCE IT WOULD TAKE PLACE SOON AFTER ECEVIT'S RETURN FROM HIS VISIT TO MOSCOW. FORLANI READILY AGREED TO MY SUGGESTION THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO OBTAIN A READ-OUT ON HIS TRIP SOON AFTER HIS RETURN. GARDNER

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